



Postal Regulatory Commission
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January 31, 2020

Commissioner Robert G. Taub, Chairman
Commissioner Michael Kubayanda, Vice-Chairman
Commissioner Mark Acton
Commissioner Ann Fisher
Commissioner Ashley Poling
Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Avenue, NW, Ste 200
Washington, DC 20268

RE: DOCKET RM2017-3

Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of the Maryland Food Bank, I write to ask you to reconsider the current proposal to increase postal rates at multiple times the rate of inflation. Such increases – which you estimate to reach 7% per year, or 40% compounded over five years—will have a negative impact on our ability to carry out the Maryland Food Bank’s mission of feeding people, strengthening communities, and ending hunger for more Marylanders. One in nine Marylanders are food insecure; the Maryland Food Bank served enough food for 40 million meals—this breaks down to providing 110,000 meals daily to our hungry neighbors.

Today direct mail makes up 17% of our fundraising budget, and is our largest source of new donors. The proposed change will significantly increase our mailing costs and will lead us to divest from mailing to alternative fundraising strategies.

Given the negative impact Docket RM2017-3 has on the Maryland Food Bank and our fundraising programs, we urge the Postal Regulatory Commission to reconsider this proposal.

Sincerely,

Victoria Schonfeld
Donor Database, Senior Manager